

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 02 AUG 2005

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Applicant's or agent's file reference CLC:FP20045	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001013	International filing date (day/month/year) 30 July 2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 6 August 2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ G06F 17/30, 17/60		
Applicant MORRIS, Stephen		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 1 sheets, as follows:
 - ☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 8 February 2005	Date of completion of the report 21 July 2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer DALE SIVER Telephone No. (02) 6283 2196

Box No. I **Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1 (b))

☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)

☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-23 as originally filed/furnished

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☒ the claims:

pages 25-27 as originally filed/furnished

pages* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* 24 received by this Authority on 8 February 2005 with the letter of 7 February 2005

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☒ the drawings:

Figures 1,2,3 as originally filed (see new pages received on 31 August 2004)

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages

☐ the claims, Nos.

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):

☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages

☐ the claims, Nos.

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):

☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-32	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-32	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-32	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

D1 YODER "CATERPILLAR: A FrameWork for Building Financial Models"

D2 US 2002/0091908 A1 (ASHIDA et al.) 11 July 2002

D3 US 5446575 A (LYSAKOWSKI, Jr.) 29 August 1995

Novelty (N)

None of the citations disclose each and every integer of claim 1 explicitly.

Inventive step (IS)

D1 is the closest prior art to the present claims.

D1 discloses reading a financial model specification and editing the model dynamically and updating the associated database. D1 does not disclose the iterative procedure including the determining step which involves reading the second item type(s) and determining whether the first database includes prerequisite item(s) necessary to determine the second item type. The present claims have the surprising advantage that it does not make any difference in which order items of the second item type are determined in the determining step. This iterative procedure would not be obvious from the set of frameworks disclosed in D1 (see section 3.) with building blocks and hierarchical database structures.

D2 and D3 each disclose separating the model specification (eg. rules) from the underlying raw data (eg. data line items) so that the user can store the updated system model in a first database. However they also do not teach the iterative procedure defined in the claims.

The claims satisfy PCT requirements for inventive step in light of the above documents, taken alone or in any obvious combination.

Industrial applicability (IA)

The patent application has an industrial application (eg. financial modelling).

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CLAIMS:

1. A method for processing data for a system model including the steps of providing a model specification having a plurality of types of items
5 including at least one first item type wherein associated data is obtained from data input into the system and at least one second item type wherein associated data is obtained from an operation performed on the data associated with at least one item stored in a first
10 database, inputting data into the system, searching the input data for first item types, storing data associated with first item types in the first database, reading the or one of the second item types in a determining step including determining whether the first database includes
15 the or each prerequisite item necessary to determine the one second item type by obtaining associated data from an operation performed on data associated with at least one item stored in the first data base, storing the one second item type in the first database if the or each
20 prerequisite item is present, successively reading each other second item type and storing it in the first database if the or each prerequisite item is present in the first database and outputting an indication that the system model can be produced if items of the model
25 specification are stored into the first database.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein each second item type is read successively.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2 including at least two items of the second type.

30 4. The method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 incorporating an iterative process of reading second item types not stored in the first database whenever a second item type is stored in the first database.

35 5. The method as claimed in claim 1 including the step of storing first item types in modules within the first database.